



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2841
Examiner: J. Alcala

Handwritten: H4/Election
R. Gerson
9/20/01

In Re PATENT APPLICATION OF:

~~Applicant(s)~~ : Mark J. BAILEY et al.

~~Serial No.~~ : 09/651,334

~~Filed~~ : August 31, 2000

~~For~~ : ENHANCED SURFACE
LAMINAR CIRCUIT BOARD

Attorney Ref. : IBM-191

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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In response to the Restriction/Election Requirement mailed August 27, 2001, Applicants elect Group I (claims 1-12, 20-22, drawn to a printed circuit board) for further examination. Applicants further elect species 1, as shown in Figs. 2-6. Claims 1-3, 5-12, 20 and 21 read upon the elected species. This election is with traverse. The Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to MPEP § 803, which specifically states that if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine the entire application on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions. It is submitted that examination of the entire application would not constitute a serious burden on the part of the Examiner, since the Examiner must search the subject matter of claims 4, 13-19 and 22 in connection with the claims of Group I, species I. That is, the subject matter of the elected claims and the non-elected claims at least partially overlaps. Thus, in order to completely examine claims 1-3, 5-12, 20 and 21, the Examiner must necessarily search the subject matter of claims 4, 13-19 and 22. It is thus requested that the Examiner examine all of the claims pending in the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert H. Berdo, Jr.
(Registration No. 38,075)
Customer No. 23995

September 18, 2001
Date

RHB:vjb

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